

## Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE  
INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 106114

ABIDJAN FOR AMBASSADOR EASUM

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP, EGEN, PFOR, SCUL, NI

SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR YOUNG'S VISIT TO NIGERIA: NEW YORK  
TIMES ARTICLE

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF ARTICLE BY KATHLEEN TELTSCH APPEARING  
IN NEW YORK TIMES MAY 10, 1977: QUOTE HEADLINE - YOUNG,  
OFF ON HIS AFRICAN TOUR, MAY SEEK CLOSER NIGERIAN TIES.  
UNQUOTE.

BEGIN TEXT: QUOTE: UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., MAY 9- ANDREW  
YOUNG, THE UNITED STATES DELEGATE, LEFT TODAY ON AN AFRICAN  
TOUR THAT MAY AIM IN PART AT IMPROVING RELATIONS WITH  
NIGERIA.

THE STAKES ARE HIGH ON THIS ONE; SAID A UNITED STATES OF-  
FICIAL FAMILIAR WITH MR. YOUNG'S EFFORTS TO IMPRESS ON THE  
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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT AND CONGRESS THE PIVOTAL ROLE OF  
NIGERIA AS BLACK AFRICA'S MOST POPULOUS AND RICHEST COUNTRY.

NIGERIA AND THE UNITED STATES ARE KNOWN TO BE DISCUSSING  
SETTING UP A JOINT ECONOMIC COMMISSION TO ENCOURAGE AMERICAN  
INVESTORS AND INCREASED TRADE. THE DISCUSSIONS, ACCORDING  
TO BASHIR BORODO, ECONOMIC MINISTER OF THE NIGERIAN EMBASSY,

ARE GOING ON "AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL," WHICH MEANS THAT THEY INVOLVE LIEUT. GEN. OLUSEGUN OBASANJO, THE HEAD OF STATE.

MR. YOUNG IS EXPECTED TO ARRIVE IN NIGERIA ON FRIDAY AFTER HAVING VISITED THE IVORY COAST AND GHANA AND BEFORE GOING ON TO A UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE IN MOZAMBIQUE, WHERE HE WILL BE CONFERRING WITH RHODESIAN GUERRILLA LEADERS. IT WOULD BE HIS SECOND VISIT TO NIGERIA SINCE HE BECAME UNITED NATIONS DELEGATE AND HE HAS FOUND THE NIGERIANS RESPONSIVE.

BY CONTRAST, SECRETARY OF STATE HENRY A. KISSINGER WAS REBUFFED LAST YEAR WHEN HE PLANNED A TRIP TO LAGOS AND WAS TOLD THE VISIT WAS "INCONVENIENT." THE IMPRESSION WAS LEFT THAT THE NIGERIAN LEADERSHIP WAS CRITICAL OF THE SECRETARY'S STANCE ON SOUTHERN AFRICA AND ANGOLA.

MR. YOUNG SAID AFTER HIS VISIT IN FEBRUARY THAT NIGERIA WAS EAGER TO ATTRACT AMERICAN INVESTORS AND TRADE AS PART OF ITS FIVE-YEAR PLAN FINANCED BY OIL REVENUES. SPEAKING RECENTLY IN MICHIGAN TO GROUPS OF AUTOMOTIVE EXECUTIVES, MR. YOUNG POINTED OUT THAT THE UNITED STATES LAST YEAR SPENT DOLS 5 BILLION FOR OIL IMPORTS FROM NIGERIA, BUT EXPORTED ONLY DOLS 700 MILLION WORTH OF GOODS. "I WANT TO GO AFTER THAT DOLS 4 BILLION TRADE BALANCE," HE SAID.

THE PROPOSED JOINT ECONOMIC COMMISSION WOULD BE ALONG THE UNCLASSIFIED

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LINE OF THE TRADE COMMISSIONS THE UNITED STATES HAS WITH IRAN AND SAUDI ARABIA.

FOR 14 MONTHS, THE AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT HAS BEEN WORKING WITH THE NIGERIANS ON SUCH PROJECTS AS A GEOLOGICAL SURVEY IN PREPARATION FOR MOVING LAGOS, THE CAPITAL CITY, TO ANOTHER SITE. SUCH ACTIVITIES ARE REIMBURSABLE AND WILLIAM G. LYLES, THE CO-ORDINATOR FOR SUCH ACTIVITIES, SAYS THE AGENCY WOULD BE INTERESTED IN FUTURE ASSISTANCE TO NIGERIA.

THE NIGERIANS, IN TURN, ARE SEEKING TO ATTRACT AMERICAN COMPANIES AND ARE PLANNING A TRADE FAIR THAT HAS ALREADY EVOKED INTEREST, ACCORDING TO GUIDO M. GARBARINO, PRESIDENT OF THE NIGERIAN-AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE. UNQUOTE. CHRISTOPHER

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**Subject:** AMBASSADOR YOUNG'S VISIT TO NIGERIA: NEW YORK TIMES ARTICLE FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF ARTICLE BY KATHLEEN TELTSCH A  
**TAGS:** OVIP, EGEN, PFOR, SCUL, SOPN, NI, (YOUNG, ANDREW)  
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